

JUL 31 2006

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Pinney et al.  
 Serial No.: 10/801,321  
 Filed: March 16, 2004  
 Customer No.: 33123  
 For: **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR  
PROVIDING A RANDOM ACCESS  
AND RANDOM LOAD  
DISPENSING UNIT**  
 Confirmation No.: 1994  
 Examiner: Khoi Tran  
 Art Unit: 3651

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION  
UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d)

I hereby certify that this paper and the attached papers are being transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office, 571-273-8300, on this date:

7-31-06  
Date

*Jennifer Vail*  
Signature

25 pages

## REQUEST FOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF IDS &amp; SUBSTITUTE DRAWINGS

Commissioner for Patents  
 PO Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a request for acknowledgment of applicants' previously submitted Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) in this application. The IDS was submitted on July 12, 2006. The PTO/SB/08 Form with the Examiner's acknowledgement has not been received. The Applicant received the return receipt postcard with a "date" stamp from OIPE indicating that the U.S. Patent Office received the IDS documents on July 17, 2006.

The Applicant also requests acknowledgment of the substitute drawings filed on September 30, 2004 in response to the Notice of Incomplete Reply dated September 3, 2004. The Applicant received the return postcard with a "date" stamp from OIPE indicating that the U.S. Patent Office received the substitute drawings on October 4, 2004.

The Applicant received a Notice of Allowance dated July 19, 2006 in response to the amendment filed on May 22, 2006. After review of the application file upon receiving the Notice of Allowance, it was noted that the previously submitted IDS (July 12, 2006) and the substitute drawings (September 30, 2004) have not been acknowledged.

U.S.S.N. 10/801,321 – Filed: March 16, 2004

Applicant: Pinney et al

**REQUEST FOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Page 2

Applicants request that the attached IDS, the documents cited therein and the substitute drawings be acknowledged as reviewed and be made of record in the file history of the above-identified patent application. Applicants have enclosed a duplicate copy of the prior submissions, the non-patent reference and copies of the return postcards showing the OIPE date stamp.

Because this is a submission of replacement copies of documents previously filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10, it is believed no fee is due. If it should be determined that a fee for filing these papers is required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1213.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Steven A. Moore  
Registration No. 55,462

Attorney Docket No. 42193-0005

**Address all correspondence to:**

Customer No. 33123

HELLER EHRMAN LLP

4350 La Jolla Village Drive, Suite 700

San Diego, CA 92122-1246

Telephone: (858) 450-8400 / Facsimile: (858) 450-8499

SD 827792 v1 (42193.0005)

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FOLLOWING.(VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL) ON 7-12-06

**Client #:** 42193-0005

**Enclosures:** Information Disclosure Statement (2 pgs.); PTO/SB/08 (2 pgs);  
one non-patent reference; and one return postcard.

**For:** SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING A RANDOM  
ACCESS AND RANDOM LOAD DISPENSING UNIT

**Applicant:** Pinney et al

**Application No.:** 10/801,321 – **Filing Date:** 03/16/2004



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JUL 31 2006

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Pinney et al.  
 Serial No.: 10/801,321  
 Customer No.: 33123  
 Filed: March 16, 2004  
 For: **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR  
PROVIDING A RANDOM ACCESS  
AND RANDOM LOAD  
DISPENSING UNIT**  
 Confirmation No.: 1994  
 Examiner: Khoi Tran  
 Art Unit: 3651

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence and the attached papers are being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail on the date indicated below and addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

7-12-06 *Y. Tran for 1450*  
Date Signature

**COPY**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). Because this Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three months of receipt of the Supplementary European Search Report from the counterpart foreign application for the above-captioned application, a fee for filing this statement should not be due. If, however, it is determined that a fee is due, any fees that may be due in connection with filing this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1213.

In accordance with the duty of disclosure imposed by 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 to inform the Office of all references known by Applicant or Applicant's representative that may be material to the examination of the subject application, Applicant's representative hereby provides this Information Disclosure Statement that is prepared in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.98. Form PTO/SB/08 (2 pgs.) and a copy of the non-patent reference is provided herewith in connection with the above-captioned application. The cited references that comprise issued U.S. patents are not attached, per the Notice of waiver published in the Official Gazette on August 5, 2003.

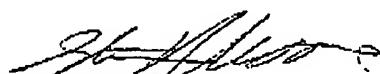
Applicant: Pinney et al  
Serial No. 10/801,321 – Filed: March 16, 2004  
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
Page 2

The document listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08 is in the English language. All documents were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in connection with a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the attached Information Disclosure Statement. A copy of the communication and the Supplementary European Search Report for European Application No. 04756405.9, is also provided. Hence, in accordance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, as amended effective March 16, 1992, no further explanation of the listed items is necessary.

Although these documents are made known to the Patent and Trademark Office in compliance with Applicant's duty of disclosure, such disclosure is not to be construed as an admission by Applicant or Applicant's representative that any of the references, singly or in any combination thereof, is effective as prior art against the subject application. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b) exists.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner review the references and make them of record in the file history of the above-captioned application.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven A. Moore  
Registration No. 55,462

**Address all correspondence to:**  
Customer No. 33123  
HELLER EHRMAN LLP  
4350 La Jolla Village Drive, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Diego, CA 92122-1246  
Telephone: (858) 450-8400 Facsimile: (858) 450-8499

SD 823196 v1 (42193.0005)

JUL 31 2006

PTO/SB/089 (07-05)

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**Substitute for form 1448APTO**

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Use as many sheets as necessary.

54

10

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/801,321
Filing Date	03/16/04
First Named Inventor	Pinney et al
Art Unit	3651
Examiner Name	K. Tran
Attorney Docket Number	42193-0005

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columna, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

**Examiner Signature** **Date Considered**  
\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 809. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 801.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 5 Applicant is in place of a trademark by the WIPO Standard ST.15 if possible.

Translation is attached.  
This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.67 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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JUL 31 2006

PTO/SB/086 (07-05)

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## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

Sheet

1

**Complete if Known**

10/801 321

10/08 1,52

03/16/04

## Pinne

3651

383

K. Tran

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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**EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.87 and 1.88. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 36 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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 Hanna, Moore & Curley  
 13 Lower Lad Lane  
 Dublin 2  
 IRLANDE

EPO Customer Services  
 Tel.: +31 (0)70 340 45 00

Date  
 22.06.06

Reference  
 H01-543-01

Application No./Patent No.  
 04756405.9 - 2221 PCT/US2004020978

Applicant/Proprietor  
 Asteres Inc.

### COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits as an enclosure the supplementary European search report under Article 157(2)(a) EPC for the above-mentioned European patent application.

If applicable, copies of the documents cited in the European search report are attached.

Additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the European search report is (are) enclosed as well.

### Refund of the search fee

If applicable under Article 10 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.



European Patent  
OfficeSUPPLEMENTARY  
EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORTApplication Number  
EP 04 75 6405

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT																		
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)															
X	US 4 896 024 A (H. MORELLO ET AL.) 23 January 1990 (1990-01-23) * abstract; claims; figures *	1,2,4,6	INV. G07F11/62 B65D1/00															
A	* column 13, line 43 - column 18, line 20 *	3,5, 7-12,19, 20,22, 23,26																
A	US 4 519 522 A (J.R. MCELWEE) 28 May 1985 (1985-05-28) * the whole document *	1-33																
A	US 5 713 487 A (M.E. COUGHLIN) 3 February 1998 (1998-02-03) * the whole document *	1-33																
A	US 2003/029882 A1 (S. YUYAMA ET AL.) 13 February 2003 (2003-02-13) * abstract; claims; figures 1-7 * * paragraph [0101] - paragraph [0104] *	1-33																
A	US 5 059 772 A (B. YOUNGLOVE) 22 October 1991 (1991-10-22)		TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)															
A	US 2002/139810 A1 (S. YUYAMA ET AL.) 3 October 2002 (2002-10-03)		G07F															
2	The supplementary search report has been based on the last set of claims valid and available at the start of the search.																	
<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Place of search</td> <td>Date of completion of the search</td> <td>Examiner</td> </tr> <tr> <td>The Hague</td> <td>14 June 2006</td> <td>David, J</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">           X : particularly relevant if taken alone            Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category            A : technological background            O : non-written disclosure            P : intermediate document         </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">           T : theory or principle underlying the invention            E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date            D : document cited in the application            L : document cited for other reasons            &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document         </td> </tr> </table>				Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	The Hague	14 June 2006	David, J	CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document		
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The Hague	14 June 2006	David, J																
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS																		
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document																		
T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document																		

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 04 75 6405

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

14-06-2006

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 4896024	A	23-01-1990	NONE	
US 4519522	A	28-05-1985	NONE	
US 5713487	A	03-02-1998	AU 700142 B2 AU 1709297 A BR 9708023 A CA 2248204 A1 EP 0909435 A1 JP 3288386 B2 JP 11513954 T NZ 331737 A WO 9734268 A1 US 5762235 A	24-12-1998 01-10-1997 04-01-2000 18-09-1997 21-04-1999 04-06-2002 30-11-1999 28-02-2000 18-09-1997 09-06-1998
US 2003029882	A1	13-02-2003	CA 2402594 A1 EP 1281638 A1 WO 0168484 A1 TW 537997 B	20-09-2001 05-02-2003 20-09-2001 21-06-2003
US 5059772	A	22-10-1991	AU 7787891 A WO 9107731 A1	13-06-1991 30-05-1991
US 2002139810	A1	03-10-2002	AT 316674 T CA 2379016 A1 EP 1246140 A2 JP 2002302214 A TW 527303 B	15-02-2006 30-09-2002 02-10-2002 18-10-2002 11-04-2003

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Transmittal Letter  
 PATENT APPLICATION  
 Specification (incl. Claims if any) *O I P* Pg 1  
 Abstract of Disclosure  
 Information Disclosure Statement *OCT 04 2004* OCT 04 2004  
 Patent Copies  
 Declaration & Power of Attorney  
 Declaration Claiming Small Entity Status  
 Assignment and Cover Sheet  
 Drawings \_\_\_\_\_ Sheets  
 Response to Missing Parts Notice  
 Response to Office Action/Amendment  
 Request for Ext. of Time for filing (2 MONTHS)  
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 Formal Drawings \_\_\_\_\_ Sheets 1 2004  
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 Fee Amount \$ 210.00 Check No. 135307  
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 Other (Specify) Copy of Notice of

Incomplete Reply

Inventor: Linda J. Pinney, et al.  
Title: A System and Method for Providing  
a Random Access and Random . . .

Serial/Patent No. 10/801,321

Due Date: 10/1/2004 Mail Date: 9/30/2004

File No.: 013499-9005-00 Attorney: TSR/AJE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
Group Art Unit 3651

In re

Patent Application of

Linda J. Pinney, et al.

Application No. 10/801,321

Confirmation No.: 1994

Filed: March 16, 2004

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**"SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR  
PROVIDING A RANDOM ACCESS AND  
RANDOM LOAD DISPENSING UNIT"**

I, Tijuana M. Jackson, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the US Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date of my signature.

Tijuana M. Jackson  
Signature

9-30-2004  
Date of Signature

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RESPONSE TO NOTICE TO INCOMPLETE REPLY

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Notice of Incomplete Reply (NonProvisional), which was mailed September 3, 2004 and a copy of which is attached. Enclosed are substitute drawings for the above-identified application.

Applicant hereby requests a two-month extension of time extending the date for response until October 3, 2004. Enclosed is a check for \$210.00 in payment of the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(a)(2).

Entry of the enclosed drawings is respectfully requested.

Charge or credit Deposit Account No. 13-3080 with any shortage or overpayment of the above fee. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

*Thomas S. Reynolds II*

Thomas S. Reynolds II  
Reg. No. 45,262

File No. 013499-9005-00

Michael Best & Friedrich LLP  
100 East Wisconsin Avenue  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-4108  
(414) 271-6560

T:\clients\013499\9005\A\0953619.1



## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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 United States Patent and Trademark Office  
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 Alexandria, Virginia 22311-1450  
 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371 (C) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
10/801,321	03/16/2004	Linda J. Pinney	013499-9005-00

23409

MICHAEL BEST & FRIEDRICH, LLP  
 100 E WISCONSIN AVENUE  
 MILWAUKEE, WI 53202

*Michael, Best & Friedrich LLP*  
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SEP 07 2004

DOCKETING  
 MILWAUKEE, WI

CONFIRMATION NO. 1994  
 FORMALITIES LETTER  
  
 NO000000013724901

Date Mailed: 09/03/2004

## NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE REPLY (NONPROVISIONAL)

*Filing Date Granted*

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has received your reply on 08/16/2004 to the Notice to File Missing Parts (Notice) mailed 06/01/2004 and it has been entered into the nonprovisional application. The reply, however, does not include the following items required in the Notice.

The period of reply remains as set forth in the Notice. You may, however, obtain EXTENSIONS OF TIME under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a) accompanied by the appropriate fee (37 CFR 1.17(a)).

A complete reply must be timely filed to prevent ABANDONMENT of the above-identified application. Replies should be mailed to: Mail Stop Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450.

The application is informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below.

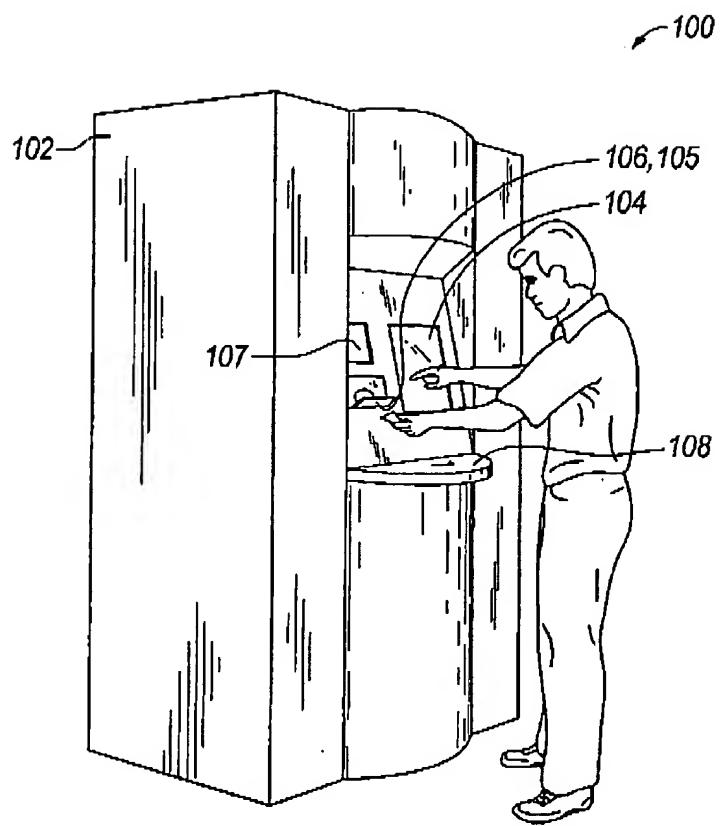
The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

- Replacement drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84 and 37 CFR 1.121 are required. The drawings submitted are not acceptable because:
  - The drawings submitted to the Office are not electronically reproducible. Drawing sheets must be submitted on paper, which is flexible, strong, white, smooth, non-shiny, and durable (see 37 CFR 1.84(e)). See Figure(s) 9, 10, 11.

Replies should be mailed to: Mail Stop Missing Parts  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria VA 22313-1450

*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.*

  
Customer Service Center  
Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202  
PART I - ATTORNEY/APPLICANT COPY



**FIG. 1**

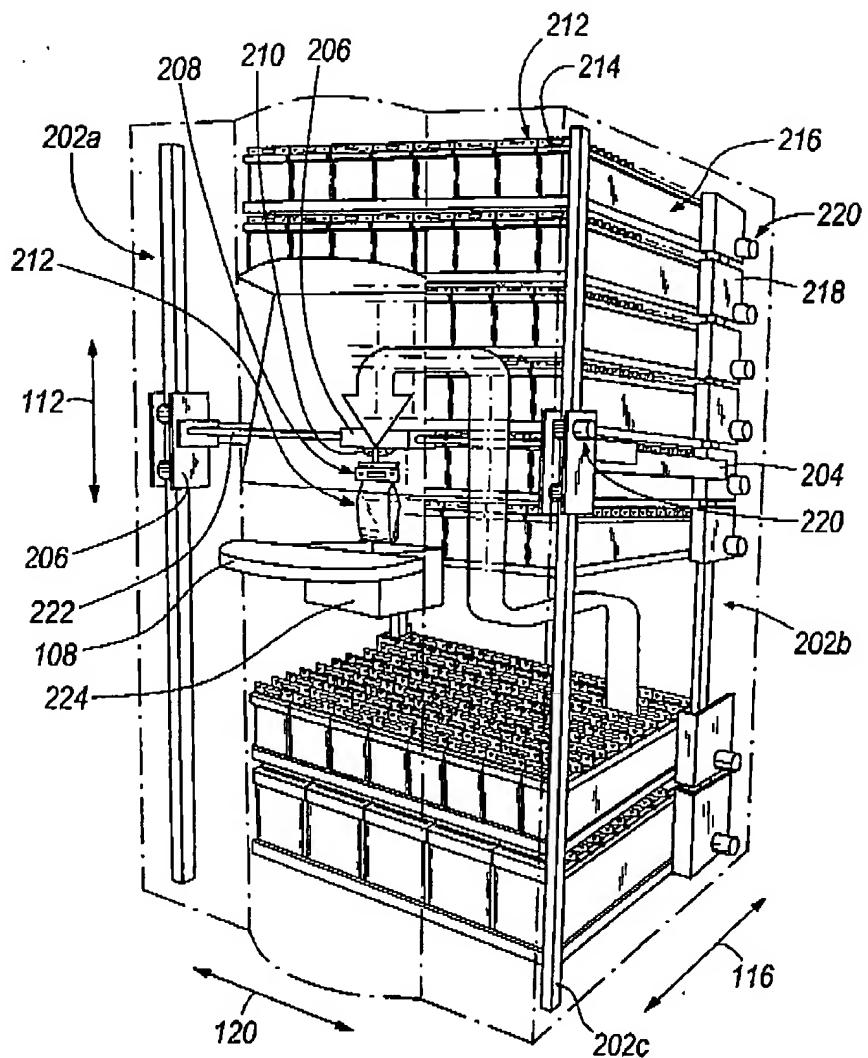
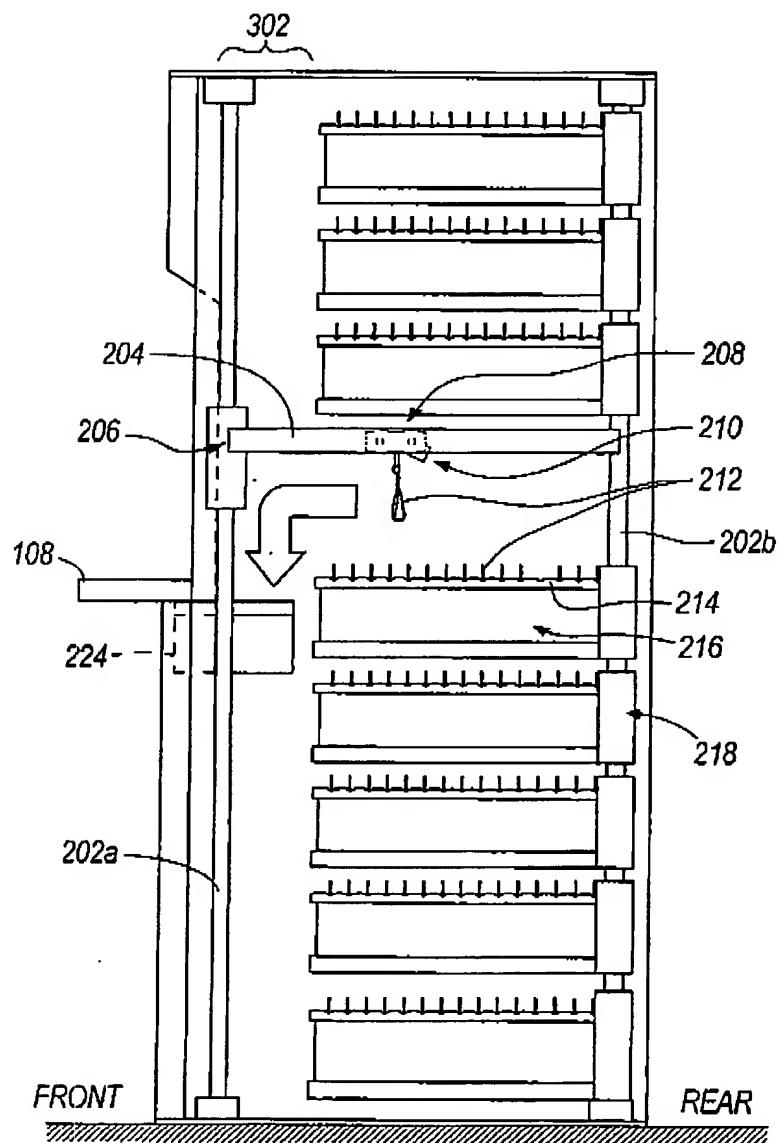
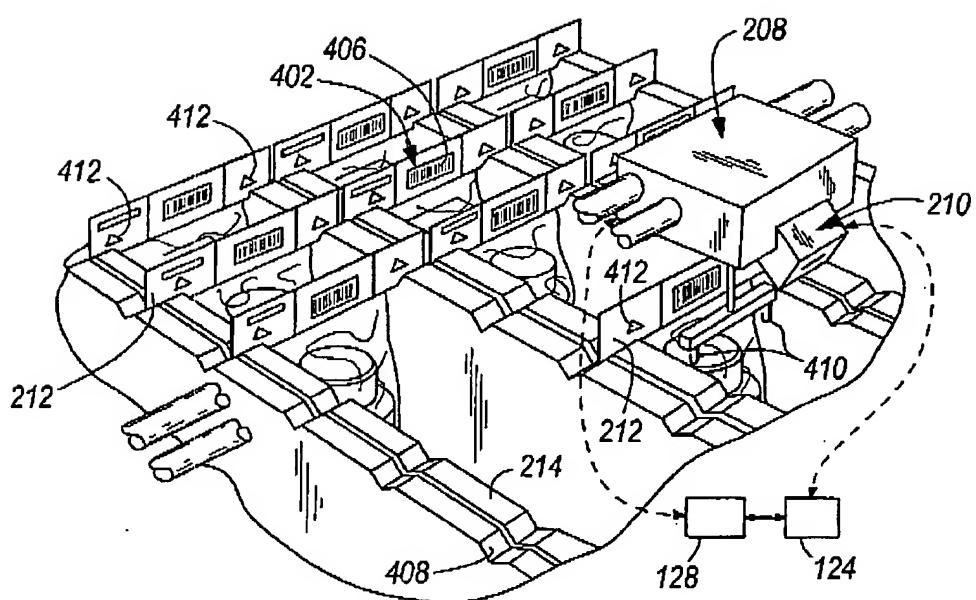


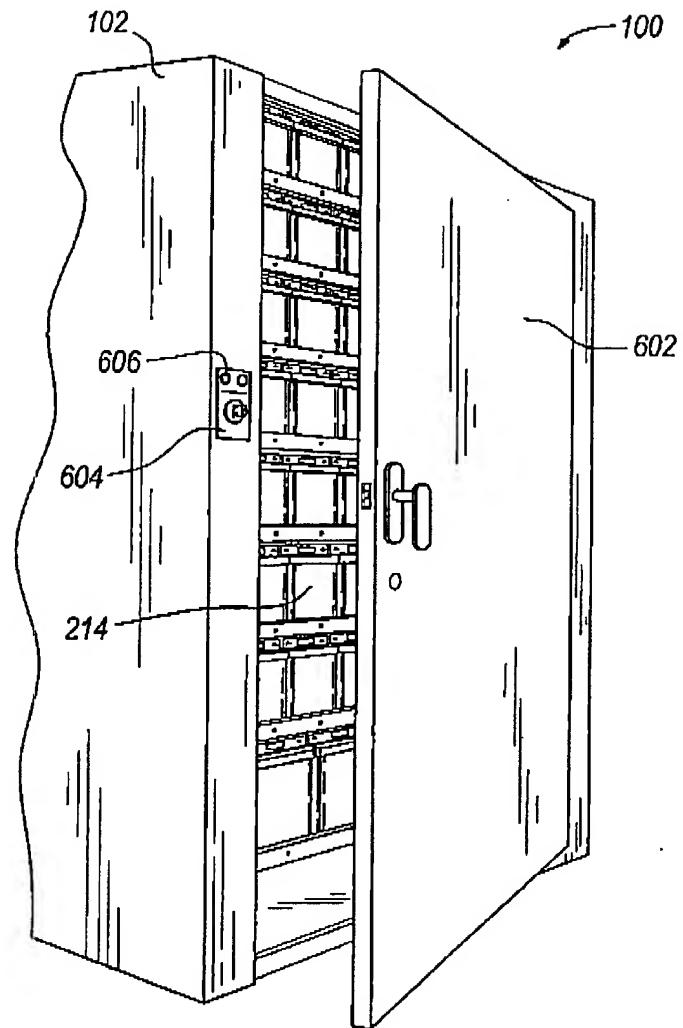
FIG. 2



**FIG. 3**



**FIG. 4**



**FIG. 5**

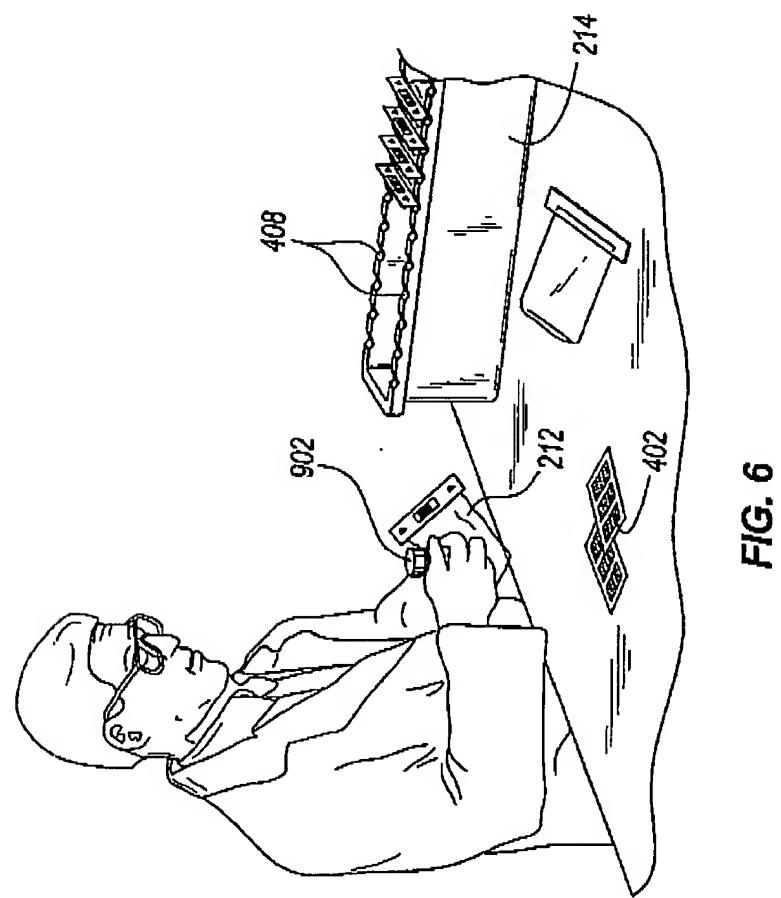


FIG. 6

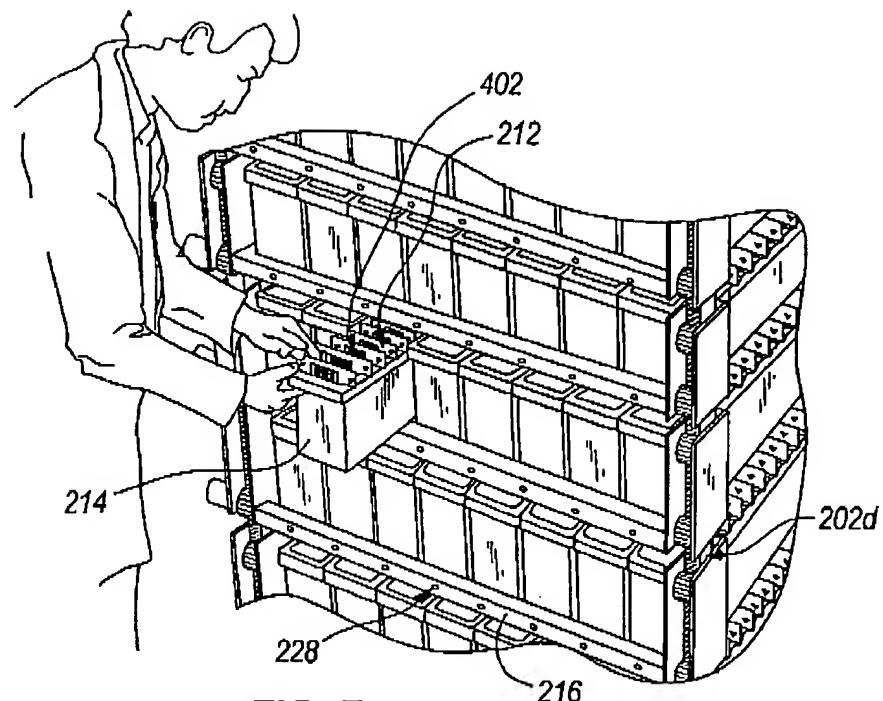


FIG. 7

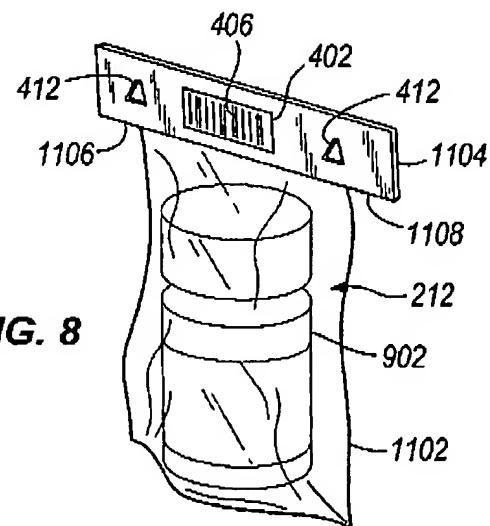


FIG. 8

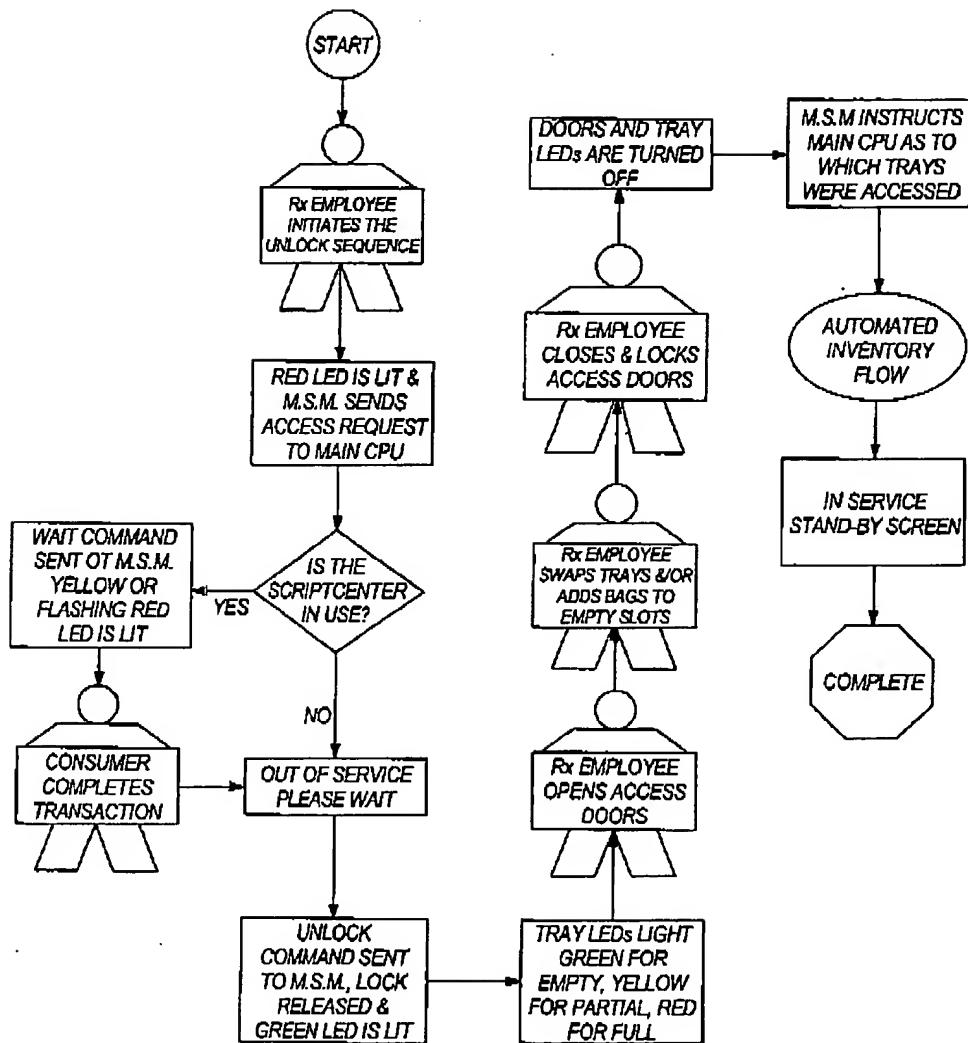


FIG. 9

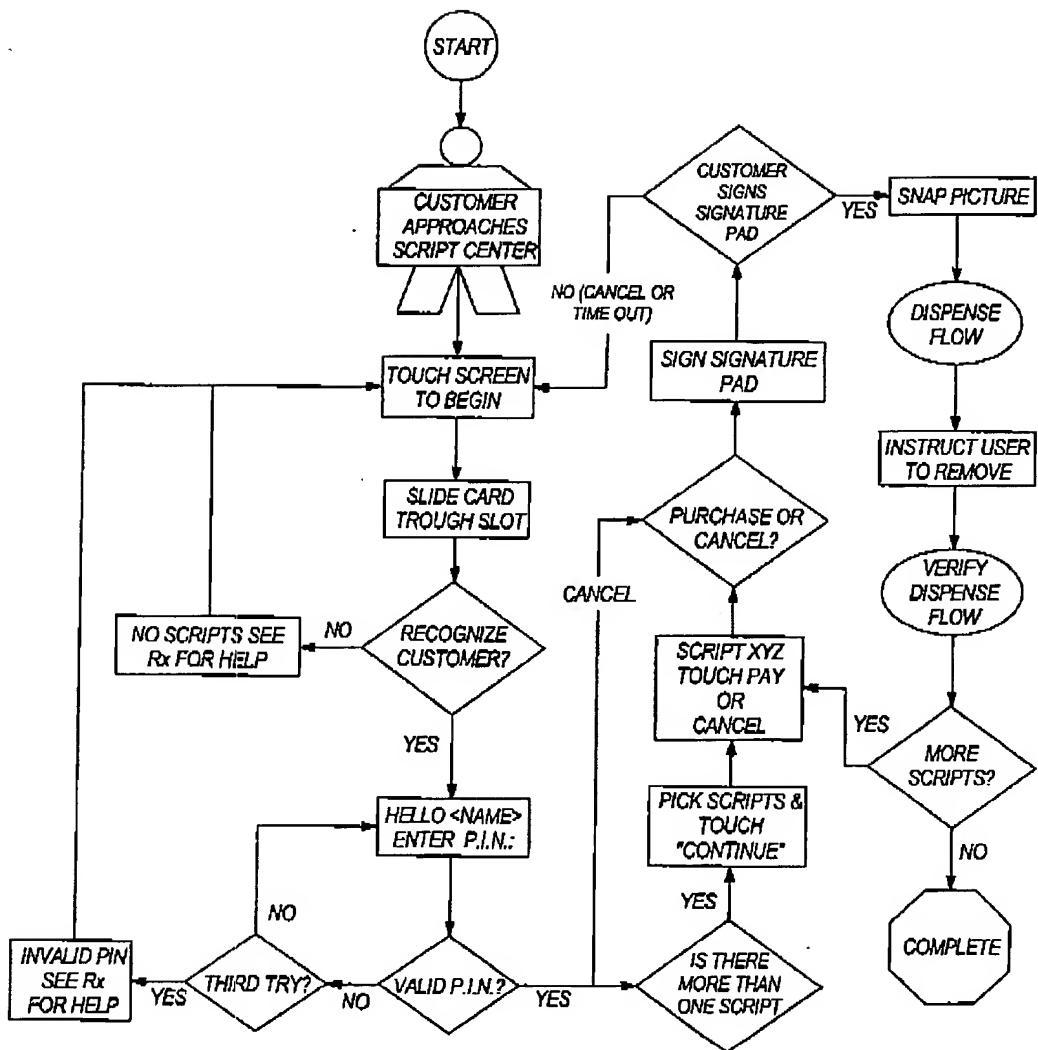


FIG. 10

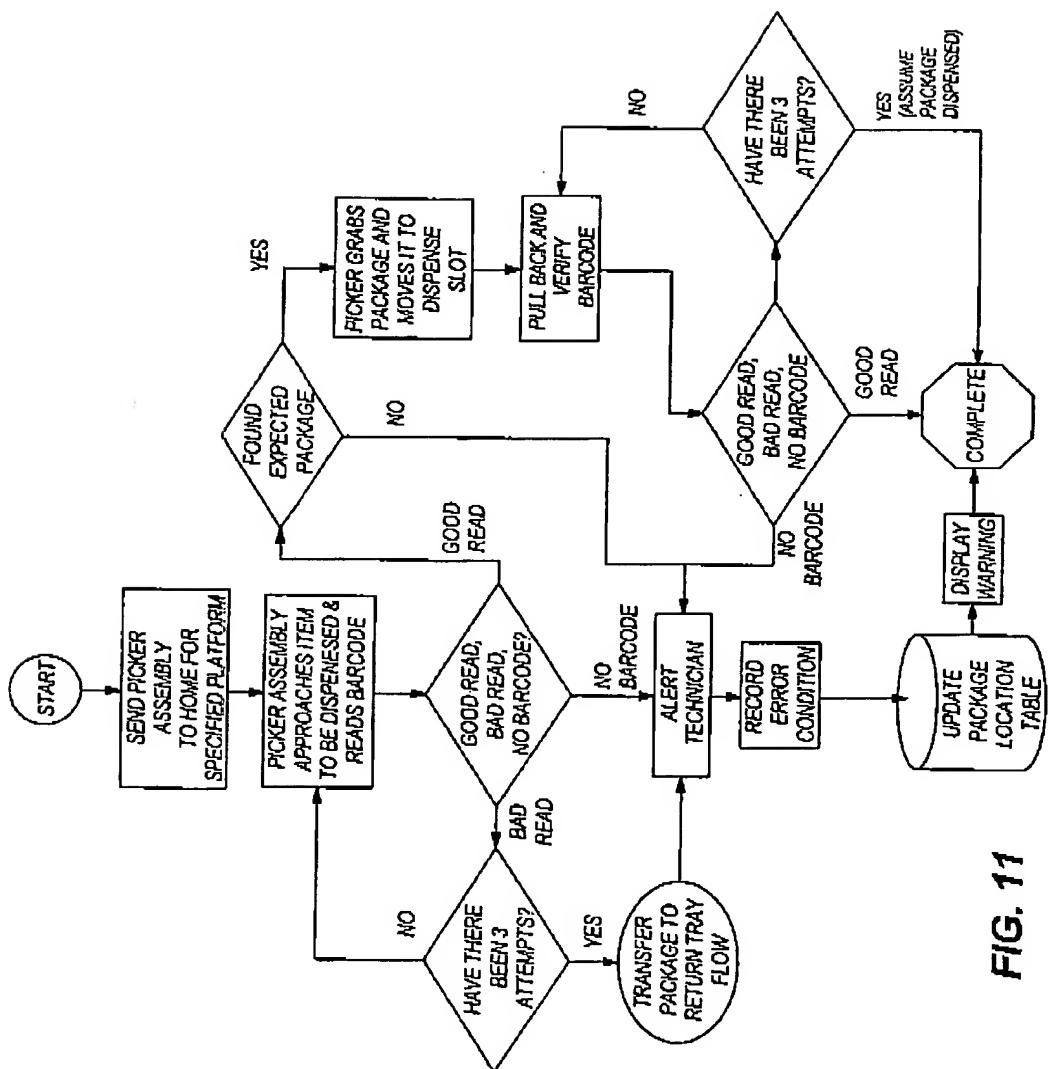


FIG. 11